GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2353
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2001
UNEMPLOYED PEOPLE IN RURAL AREAS
DUKHA BHAGAT

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether official figures indicate decline in number of unemployed people in rural areas of the country during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof confirming the decline during the said period, State-wise;

(c) the details of the authority which collect and compile these figures;

(d) whether the Government have a machinery to find out the correctness of these figures; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in the matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU)

(a) to (c): The unemployment in the country, including in rural areas, is estimated by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) once in every five years through Sample surveys. On the basis of the last sample survey conducted by NSSO in its 55th Round (1999-2000), it has been estimated that the number of unemployed rural persons in labour force is 43.35 lakh. Comparison of unemployment situation over the last three years and the current year is not possible for want of year-wise estimates either for the country as a whole or State-wise.

(d) &(e): The NSSO has evolved a strong mechanism for control and supervisionof data collection. Field supervision is carried out by higher level officers. Technical scrutiny of the filled-in schedules, adoption of consistency checks before validation of data etc. are also resorted to.